

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 12, 2005. Claims 25-33 and 35 are presented for examination, of which Claim 25 is in independent form. Claim 25 has been amended for reasons unrelated to patentability to improve its form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Examiner has requested that the claims include status identifiers. In response, Applicants have so provided the required status identifiers.

Claims 25-33 and 35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,850,218 (LaJoie et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,438,372 (Tsumori et al.).

Telephone Interview Summary and Response to Rejection

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended by the Examiner in the telephone interview on March 7, 2006. In the interview, the Examiner agreed to withdraw the outstanding rejection because neither the patent to LaJoie et al., nor the patent to Tsumori et al. is understood to disclose the concept of displaying a setting screen for setting the time period of displaying program information for the second program.

As Applicant's representative pointed out during the interview, in the patent to LaJoie et al. - "a program information banner . . . is preferably displayed for a fixed period of time (e.g. 2 seconds) or until an information key . . . is depressed . . .," (column 15, lines 19 - 27). Thus, this patent is not understood to display a setting screen for setting the time period of displaying program information of the second program, as recited in Claim 25.

As also pointed out by Applicant's representative during the interview, Figure 9 of the patent to Tsumori et al. is understood to show a timer menu that is displayed when the user selects item 36b₄ in Figure 4. Item 36b₄ relates "to the timer for making reservations for recording" (column 13, lines 17 and 18). "The timer menu comprises . . . an item 36b₄₇ relating to time set for setting the time, and an item 36b₄₈ relating to time display for displaying the time" (column 17, lines 22-37). Thus, selecting item 36b₄₇ is understood to permit the user to merely set the time to be displayed. It is not understood to display a setting screen for setting the time period of displaying program information of the second program, as recited in Claim 25.

Since MPEP § 2142 requires the cited art to disclose or suggest all the claimed features to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, and since the patents to LaJoie et al. and Tsumori et al. are understood to fail to disclose or suggest at least one claimed feature, a prima facie case of obviousness has not yet been established against independent Claim 25. For this reason, Applicant respectfully requests that the outstanding rejection of Claim 25 be withdrawn.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claim discussed above and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case may be, of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

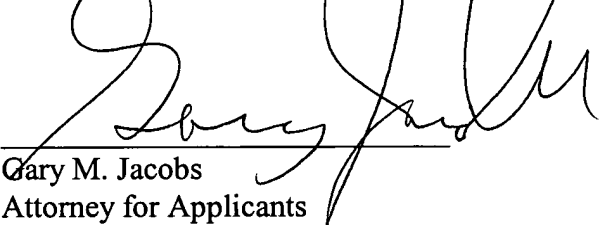
No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for the this Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely

filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. Office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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